

## Highlights of the Federal Libraries and Information Centers Survey

The following are highlights taken from the E.D. Tabs "Federal Libraries and Information Centers in the United States: 1994" released in April 1996.

- In 1994, 1,234 Federal libraries and information centers were identified in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- Of the 1,234 Federal libraries and information centers identified, 1,161 were survey respondents.
- Library/Information Center users (clientele) were most often described as agency staff (81.5 percent), other Federal staff (61.9 percent), and targeted populations (59.5 percent).
- Of respondents, 40.0 percent reported the general public among major clientele, and 52.7 percent reported that services are available to the general public.
- Of respondents, 85.0 percent reported numbers of book volumes in print, 16.3 percent reported microform book volume equivalents, and 16.4 percent reported book volume equivalents in electronic format.
- Volumes in book print collection of less than 25,000 were reported by 68.9 percent of respondents, with 1.5 percent reporting none.
- Of the responding Federal libraries and information centers, 95.8 percent reported that reference services are provided by staff, 20.6 percent reported by parent or other government agency library, and 15.6 percent reported contracted services.
- On-line searches per typical week were reported by 68.0 percent of respondents, CD-ROM searches by 55.4 percent, OPAC (on-line public access catalog) and other in-house database searches by 25.8 percent, and Internet searches by 24.2 percent.
- Of respondents, 51.4 percent reported providing Selective Dissemination of Information service, 38.4 percent reported preparing published bibliographies, 34 percent reported producing other publications, and 17.4 percent reported producing on-line or CD-ROM databases.
- Of a variety of technical functions, cataloging was automated or under development in the highest percentage of respondents (70.3 percent) .
- As to technologies available, 84 percent of respondents reported FAX , 78.6 percent reported E-mail, 76.2 percent reported CD-ROM, 61.3 percent reported Local Area Network, and 55.1 percent reported Internet available.
- Contract staff on site was reported by 18.8 percent of respondents. Of respondents, 47.3 percent reported less than three total full-time equivalent (FTE) staff including contract staff on site.
- Finally, 42.7 percent of respondents reported having undertaken or developed preservation activities.